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Programme planning

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 20
Human rights

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Overall orientation

20.1 The overarching objective of the United Nations human rights programme is to promote and protect the effective enjoyment by all of all human rights. Its mandate derives from Articles 1, 13, 55 and 62 of the Charter of the United Nations; the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, including its principles and recommendations, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights and subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/121; Assembly resolution 48/141 establishing the post of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; international human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations; the outcomes of relevant United Nations conferences and summits; and the resolutions and decisions of policymaking bodies, including, in particular, Assembly resolutions 55/2 and 65/1 on the United Nations Millennium Declaration, 57/300 on strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change, 60/1 on the 2005 World Summit Outcome and 60/251 and 65/281 on the Human Rights Council and its review. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) will also be guided by international humanitarian law, as applicable.

20.2 The programme is guided by the principles of universality, objectivity, impartiality, indivisibility and non-selectivity in removing obstacles to the full realization of all human rights and in preventing the continuation of human rights violations, including with relevant parties. It undertakes to give practical effect to the will and resolve of the world community, as expressed through the United Nations, including in the Millennium Declaration, the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the 2010 High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, which acknowledged peace and security, development and human rights as interlinked and mutually reinforcing pillars of the United Nations system, providing foundations for collective security and well-being, and recognized that the respect for and promotion and protection of human rights is an integral part of effective work towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The United Nations human rights programme has a role in making development equitable, sustainable and responsive to the needs of people and in relation to conflict prevention and resolution.

20.3 The programme falls under the leadership of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, entrusted with the principal responsibility for the human rights activities of the Organization, under the direction and authority of the Secretary-General and within the framework of the overall competence, authority and decisions of the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights acts as the central supportive structure for the programme.

20.4 Priority will continue to be given to emphasizing the importance of human rights on international and national agendas, combating poverty and countering discrimination on all internationally recognized grounds, including race, sex, language or religion, advancing the rights of children and women, raising awareness of human rights at all levels of education, responding to the needs of the vulnerable for protection and addressing situations of international concern, in particular gross and systematic violations of human rights, as identified by the Human Rights Council and other relevant United Nations organs.

20.5 The continued engagement of OHCHR with countries is essential to the realization of the programme in the framework of the enhanced partnerships at the national, regional and international levels. Increased support for human rights implementation will continue to be provided to requesting Member States through mutually agreed bilateral frameworks, outlining, inter alia, assistance to national systems of human rights protection, national capacity-building, technical cooperation, human rights education and learning and other relevant activities. The programme will continue to take gender issues fully into account in the development and application of norms and procedures so that violations against women and girls are clearly identified and addressed.

20.6 Strengthened and consolidated organizational support will be provided to the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary bodies and mechanisms, including the universal periodic review, special procedures, the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee and complaint procedure, as well as other relevant United Nations organs. The United Nations treaty-monitoring bodies, all serviced by OHCHR, will receive strengthened support and advice.

20.7 The programme strategy will be guided by the lessons learned from the biennium 2012-2013, in particular with regard to measurements of achievement that can be implemented realistically by OHCHR.

Subprogramme 1
Human rights mainstreaming, right to development, and research and analysis

20.8 The responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the Research and Right to Development Division.

A. Human rights mainstreaming

Objective of the Organization: To advance the promotion and protection of all human rights and to further integrate all human rights into all relevant areas of work of the United Nations system

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Further integration of all human rights by the United Nations system into all areas of work, such as economic and social development, humanitarian, peace and security, governance and rule of law programmes and activities	(a) Increased number of United Nations projects and activities that further integrate all human rights
(b) Strengthened capacity of the United Nations system, in particular United Nations country teams, to further integrate all human rights into their respective programmes and activities and to assist Member States, at their request, in building and strengthening national human rights promotion and protection capacities	(b) Increased number of United Nations activities, projects and common country programming documents that further integrate all human rights

(c) Wider knowledge within the entire United Nations system, including United Nations country teams, of relevant human rights issues and their disability and gender dimension	(c) Increased percentage of resident and humanitarian coordinators, special representatives of the Secretary-General, other senior officials and country teams trained and advised by OHCHR

Strategy

20.9 This part of the subprogramme will continue to play a leadership role in pursuing cooperation within the United Nations system for the integration of all human rights into its development, environmental, humanitarian, peace and security, governance, democracy and rule of law programmes and activities, consistent with the existing mandates in these areas, in order to contribute to the full and effective implementation of international human rights standards by States. The strategy will focus on:

(a) Integrating a human rights perspective into United Nations programmes and activities in the development, environmental, humanitarian, peace and security, governance, democracy and rule of law areas, contributing to the promotion and protection of all human rights at all levels;

(b) Strengthening the substantive engagement and partnership, at the international level, of OHCHR with the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other United Nations agencies, bearing in mind their respective mandates, as well as with civil society, including non-governmental organizations;

(c) Promoting the practical integration of all human rights into development programmes, as well as ensuring consistency and mutual reinforcement between United Nations-supported development activities and country engagement strategies jointly agreed between OHCHR and the concerned Member State;

(d) Developing methodologies to facilitate the inclusion of all human rights in United Nations policies, programmes and activities for development, peace and security, the rule of law, governance and humanitarian assistance, and to facilitate, where appropriate, the advancement of the practical applications of rights-based approaches to all the aforementioned areas;

(e) Contributing to developing the capability of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations country teams, through training, advice and methodological tools, to assist requesting Member States in building and enhancing national capacities to promote and protect all human rights and in mainstreaming human rights into national policies.

B. Right to development

Objective of the Organization: To advance the promotion and protection of the effective enjoyment by all of all human rights by contributing to the effective realization of the right to development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Further integration of the promotion and protection of the right to development in global partnerships for development and, as appropriate, in the policies and operational activities of relevant actors at all levels	(a) Increased number of projects and activities aimed at integrating the right to development, including in global partnerships for development
(b) Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of the right to development at all levels	(b) Increased number of activities, analytical papers and information materials organized or made available by OHCHR within and outside the United Nations in contribution to increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding of the realization of the right to development

Strategy

20.10 This part of the subprogramme will pursue a multidimensional strategy to support the implementation of the right to development in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and other relevant mandates. The strategy will focus on:

(a) Ensuring the realization of the right to development across the human rights programme and by the relevant bodies of the United Nations system through strengthened and effective evaluation and monitoring to that end;

(b) Enhancing substantive support to the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary mechanisms related to the right to development, including by fostering support to the Working Group on the Right to Development;

(c) Building stronger partnerships and collaboration with relevant actors, including Member States, multilateral institutions and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, so that support given to human rights bodies relevant to the right to development, as well as funds and specialized agencies, will have increased focus on its practical implementation;

(d) Encouraging the promotion and protection of the right to development in global development partnerships, as reflected in Millennium Development Goal 8 (aid, trade and debt reduction), through advocacy, networking, technical advice and the establishment of partnerships and other kinds of cooperation;

(e) Promoting the implementation of the right to development in technical assistance to requesting countries and, taking into account a human rights-based approach, in national development strategies, such as poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist, national Millennium Development Goals strategies and United Nations development frameworks, through close cooperation with Member States and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

(f) Identifying obstacles to the implementation of the right to development at the international, regional and national levels and promoting awareness about the content and importance of the right to development, including through increased engagement, research, advocacy and informational and educational activities;

(g) Promoting cooperation at the international and regional levels in mainstreaming the right to development, including by undertaking activities aimed at effectively strengthening the global partnership for development among Member States, development agencies and international development, financial and trade institutions.

C. Research and analysis

Objective of the Organization: To advance the promotion and protection of the effective enjoyment by all of all human rights by increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened respect for the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by everyone, inter alia, by combating discrimination	(a) Number of activities carried out and measures taken to promote and protect the enjoyment of human rights
(b) Strengthened efforts that contribute to the elimination of all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including contemporary forms of racism	(b) Increased number of measures taken to eliminate all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including contemporary forms of racism
(c) Enhanced contribution of OHCHR to the effective achievement of the Millennium Development Goals	(c) Number of activities carried out and measures taken in contribution to the effective achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
(d) Promotion of legal protection and advocacy for the full implementation of all human rights, including at the country level and through capacity-building and international cooperation	(d) Number of activities carried out and measures taken to enhance the promotion of legal protection and advocacy in implementing all human rights
(e) More effective United Nations assistance to Member States and civil society, media and national human rights institutions, where they exist, at their request, in strengthening the rule of law and national democratic institutions for the protection of all human rights for all	(e) Number of activities and measures taken to strengthen the rule of law and democratic institutions for the protection of all human rights for all
(f) Enhanced methodological expertise to implement human rights activities and to provide advice and assistance to Governments and partners within and outside the United Nations system	(f) Number of methodological and operational guidelines and tools developed for the realization of human rights

(g) Enhanced capacity of OHCHR to provide training and advice to promote human rights compliance with a view to protecting rights holders at the national level	(g) Number of advisory and training activities provided by OHCHR and its partners, as appropriate, in relevant substantive areas

Strategy

20.11 This part of the subprogramme will be responsible for enhancing the research and analysis of human rights issues, problems and challenges, and the development and application of expertise on human rights themes and methodologies. It will be responsible for the consolidation, further development and strengthening of substantive human rights expertise to support effective engagement with countries and global and national-level partnerships, and to lead efforts within the United Nations system to meet current human rights challenges. Strengthened expertise will be used to overcome human rights implementation gaps and will provide the basis for OHCHR to work on technical cooperation, advocacy, training, policy development, analysis, protection and advice to partners at all levels. The strategy will focus on:

(a) Advocacy for the indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights by enhancing substantive and methodological expertise; the promotion and protection of all human rights; the development and consolidation of partnerships within and outside the United Nations for strengthening national capacity in the areas of the rule of law, democracy and good governance; human rights-based approaches to development, counter-terrorism and anti-trafficking measures as well as to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and poverty reduction strategies; the protection of human rights in the context of the fight against terrorism; the protection of human rights in the context of business activities; contributing to the elimination of all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and new forms of discrimination; and strengthening respect for the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by everyone, inter alia, by combating discrimination;

(b) Advancing knowledge, awareness, understanding and the implementation of all human rights, including through research, policy-oriented analysis, support to standard-setting capacity-building, advocacy, best practices and the development of methodologies in the areas of human rights protection, institution-building and education, development and delivery of human rights training activities, including within the framework of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, provision of specialized human rights reference services and improved knowledge management;

(c) Wider inclusion in advisory services and training provided to requesting countries of measures to be taken to combat all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including through the effective implementation of all relevant international instruments and standards, and enhancement of research and analysis in this area;

(d) Follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Outcome Document of the Durban Review Conference and the political declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

Subprogramme 2
Supporting human rights treaty bodies

Objective of the Organization: To advance the promotion and protection of the effective enjoyment by all of all human rights by providing substantive support and advice to the human rights treaty bodies, ensuring that the guiding principles of the programme are adhered to and increasing the knowledge and awareness of the international human rights treaties and the work of all treaty bodies among national and international actors

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Fully supported treaty bodies' work and their decision-making	(a) (i) Increased percentage of documents submitted on time and in compliance with relevant rules and regulations for the issuance of documentation for consideration by treaty bodies (ii) Number of measures taken to strengthen support for treaty bodies and to promote follow-up to treaty body recommendations, concluding observations and decisions
(b) More streamlined and harmonized reporting procedures followed	(b) Increased number of States parties' reports considered by treaty bodies based on the streamlined and harmonized reporting procedures
(c) Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of treaty body outputs	(c) Increased percentage of uses of treaty body recommendations and decisions
(d) Enhanced cooperation with relevant stakeholders at all levels with respect to the work of treaty bodies	(d) Increased number of activities carried out and measures taken in cooperation with relevant stakeholders at all levels

Strategy

20.12 The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Human Rights Treaties Division. The strategy will include:

(a) Assisting the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Human Rights Committee; the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; the Committee against Torture; the Committee on the Rights of the Child; the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture; the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and the Committee on Enforced Disappearances in their efforts to make their work more effective;

(b) Drawing on all available in-house resources and expertise to provide adequate substantive and technical support, including analytical capacity, for the review of State reports on the conduct of country visits by human rights treaty bodies, where provided for in the treaty or upon the request of States, and for the

processing of individual complaints, in accordance with the guiding principles of this programme;

(c) Enhancing the effective functioning of human rights treaty bodies to assist them in their efforts to streamline and make their deliberations and decision-making processes more effective;

(d) Enhancing and coordinating in-house efforts more effectively and expanding partnerships with United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions, where they exist, and the media to promote awareness and knowledge, including through new and effective methods of dissemination, such as better use of the Internet, of all international human rights treaties and the work of all treaty bodies in order to support the effective implementation of international human rights standards and compliance with treaty commitments by States parties;

(e) Promoting the ratification of human rights treaties.

Subprogramme 3
Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities

Objective of the Organization: To advance the promotion and protection of the effective enjoyment by all of all human rights through enhanced capacity-building, including through assistance to requesting States

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of the United Nations to assist States, at their request, in their effort to translate their international human rights obligations into effective laws, regulations and policies	(a) Increased number of legislative and policy changes in accordance with relevant human rights standards and instruments as a result of OHCHR assistance to requesting States
(b) Enhanced institutional capacity at the national level through engagement with requesting States to meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights	(b) Increased number of institutions established or strengthened in the field of human rights at the national level through assistance and training provided by OHCHR
(c) Increased outreach in the provision of mutually agreed assistance, including to remote areas, through advisory services and technical cooperation, to promote and protect all human rights	(c) Increased mutually agreed assistance, including to remote areas, through advisory services and technical cooperation
(d) Enhanced support of OHCHR to human rights education and awareness-raising, including at the national level, at the request of States	(d) Increased number of institutionalized human rights training and education programmes for all relevant actors introduced at the regional, subregional and national levels, with the support of the United Nations human rights programme

(e) Enhanced capacity of United Nations country teams, peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding activities to assist requesting countries in their efforts to develop national human rights protection systems, in accordance with the guiding principles of the programme	(e) Increased number of activities implemented by United Nations country teams and human rights components of United Nations peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding activities in support of national human rights protection systems, in cooperation with requesting countries
(f) Enhanced role of OHCHR in contributing to the prevention of the continuation of human rights violations in accordance with the mandate of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	(f) Increased number of activities undertaken by OHCHR contributing to resolving identified situations of large-scale human rights violations at short notice
(g) Timely and effective assistance to requesting States to assist them in the implementation of the recommendations they have agreed to in the universal periodic review process, including through the provision of assistance from the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the implementation of the universal periodic review	(g) Increased number of assistance programmes and activities provided to requesting States in the implementation of universal periodic review recommendations

Strategy

20.13 The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division. The strategy will include:

(a) Strengthening United Nations efforts for peace, security and development by enhancing the capacity of United Nations country teams and of United Nations peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding activities to assist countries, at their request, in the development of national human rights protection systems guided, inter alia, by the recommendations of human rights treaty bodies, the universal periodic review and the human rights monitoring mechanisms of the Human Rights Council. This will be achieved through joint activities with the United Nations offices or missions, the deployment of human rights officers and the provision of expert advice from Headquarters and regional and country offices, in accordance with the guiding principles of this programme;

(b) Rapidly deploying human rights observers and fact-finding missions in crisis situations, at the specific request of an affected country or as mandated by the Human Rights Council and other United Nations policymaking bodies;

(c) Providing stakeholders at the national level with human rights legal advice, education and training through technical cooperation programmes aimed at strengthening the administration of justice and developing effective national human rights institutions, human rights education programmes and comprehensive national plans of action. The need to address different human rights gaps in the implementation of human rights will guide OHCHR field activities, including the prompt response to emerging human rights emergencies;

(d) Strengthening cooperation within the United Nations system at the regional and subregional levels for the protection and promotion of human rights, including interaction between OHCHR programmes in the field and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms;

(e) Following human rights developments to assist the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, in particular the universal periodic review and special procedures, as well as other United Nations policymaking bodies and treaty-monitoring bodies, in preparing for and following up on their dialogue with countries in the implementation of their mandates, and ensuring the efficient and effective functioning of the country-specific special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

Subprogramme 4
Supporting the Human Rights Council, its subsidiary bodies and mechanisms

Objective of the Organization: To advance the promotion and protection of the effective enjoyment by all of all human rights by providing strengthened technical and expert support and advice, while ensuring that the guiding principles of the programme are adhered to, to the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary bodies and mechanisms, including the Advisory Committee, the special procedures, the universal periodic review and the complaint procedure

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Prompt and effective provision of strengthened technical and expert support and advice to the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary bodies and mechanisms	(a) (i) Increased percentage of documents submitted on time for consideration by the Human Rights Council in compliance with the relevant rules and regulations on the issuance of documentation (ii) Increased percentage of Member States providing positive feedback as a result of the support provided by the Secretariat
(b) Full support to the universal periodic review mechanism, including timely and effective assistance, as appropriate, to States within the universal periodic review framework	(b) Number of activities for the effective preparation to the universal periodic review
(c) Enhanced support to improve the impact of the work of special procedures through the analysis of gaps in the implementation of international human rights standards and timely advice for addressing gross and systematic violations of human rights	(c) (i) Increased number of plans and activities supported by OHCHR in follow-up to reports and recommendations made by the thematic mandate holders (ii) Increased number of responses and feedback from States
(d) Enhanced support to the complaint procedure established to address consistent patterns of gross and reliably attested violations of all human rights and all fundamental freedoms occurring in any part of the world and under any circumstances	(d) (i) Increased percentage of documents submitted on time for consideration (ii) Percentage of communications considered by the implementing bodies as a result of timely and effective support by the Secretariat

(e) Enhanced cooperation at all levels with stakeholders who can benefit from and/or contribute to the work of the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary bodies and mechanisms	(e) Increased number of joint activities, including with Governments, civil society organizations, United Nations agencies and programmes and the United Nations human rights machinery, including treaty bodies and policymaking bodies cooperating in the implementation of special procedures' findings and universal periodic review outcomes

Strategy

20.14 The Human Rights Council and the Special Procedures Division of OHCHR are responsible for implementing the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Providing adequate strengthened technical and expert support, while ensuring that the guiding principles of the programme are adhered to, to the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary bodies and mechanisms, including the universal periodic review, the special procedures, the Advisory Committee and the complaint procedure;

(b) Enhancing the effective functioning of human rights bodies and organs, including the Human Rights Council, including in their efforts to make their deliberations and decision-making processes more effective;

(c) Strengthening partnerships, including with Governments, civil society organizations, United Nations agencies and programmes and the United Nations human rights machinery, including treaty bodies and cooperating policymaking bodies, in order to support, as appropriate, in accordance with the guiding principles of this programme, follow-up to special procedures, findings and recommendations, and universal periodic review outcomes;

(d) Strengthening internal research and analytical information and education capability in support of the thematic special procedures and the universal periodic review mechanism, with a view to contributing to the enhancement of their effectiveness;

(e) Supporting and providing thematic expertise to fact-finding missions, including through enhanced cooperation with OHCHR geographic desks;

(f) Disseminating knowledge of the conclusions, recommendations and other outcomes of the universal periodic review as well as the findings and methodology of the thematic special procedures, and improving coordination, where appropriate, among mandate holders as well as between them and other mechanisms of the human rights machinery;

(g) Reinforcing dialogue and cooperation among the thematic special procedures, the universal periodic review mechanism and partners, including Member States, United Nations country teams, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and the victims themselves;

(h) Strengthening the capacity and role of the OHCHR Documents Processing Unit, acting in close cooperation with the United Nations Office at Geneva, with a view to the more effective coordination and streamlining of OHCHR documentation.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

47/135	Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities
48/121	World Conference on Human Rights
48/141	High Commissioner for the promotion and protection of all human rights
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
56/266	Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance
57/300	Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change
58/269	Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
60/251	Human Rights Council
61/159	Composition of the staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
61/166	Promotion of equitable and mutually respectful dialogue on human rights
61/295	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
62/134	Eliminating rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflict and related situations
63/117	Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (subprogrammes 1 and 2)
65/1	Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals
65/187	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
65/190	Trafficking in women and girls (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
65/198	Indigenous issues (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
65/200	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (subprogrammes 1, 2 and 4)

65/213	Human rights in the administration of justice (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
65/214	Human rights and extreme poverty (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
65/281	Review of the Human Rights Council
66/127	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
66/132	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (subprogrammes 1, 2 and 4)
66/140	The girl child (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
66/141	Rights of the child (subprogrammes 2 and 4)
66/142	Rights of indigenous peoples (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
66/143	Inadmissibility of certain practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
66/144	Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
66/150	Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (subprogrammes 2 and 4)
66/152	Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights (subprogrammes 1 and 3)
66/156	Human rights and unilateral coercive measures (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
66/157	Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
66/158	The right to food (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
66/160	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (subprogrammes 2 and 4)
66/166	Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (subprogrammes 1 and 4)

66/171	Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
66/172	Protection of migrants (subprogrammes 1, 2 and 4)

Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions

2/102	Reports and studies of mechanisms and mandates
4/1	Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
4/6	Strengthening of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
4/7	Rectification of the legal status of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (subprogrammes 1 and 2)
5/1	Institution-building of the United Nations Human Rights Council
5/2	Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 4)
6/9	Development of public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights
6/15	Forum on Minority Issues (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
6/36	Expert mechanism on the rights of indigenous peoples (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
8/4	The right to education
10/5	Composition of staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
12/10	Follow-up to the seventh special session of the Human Rights Council on the negative impact of the worsening of the world food crisis on the realization of the right to food for all (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
12/18	The adverse effects of the movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
12/24	Access to medicine in the context of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health (subprogrammes 1 and 4)

12/28	Follow-up to the tenth special session of the Human Rights Council on the impact of the global economic and financial crises on the universal realization and effective enjoyment of human rights (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
12/118	United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
12/119	The effect of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
13/4	The right to food (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
13/26	Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
15/8	Adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
15/19	Draft guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
16/15	The role of international cooperation in support of national efforts for the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
16/21	Review of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council
16/26	The Social Forum (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
16/27	The right to food (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
17/3	The right to education: follow-up to Human Rights Council resolution 8/4 (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
17/7	The effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
17/14	Right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health in the context of development and access to medicines (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
17/15	Promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
18/1	The human right to safe drinking water (subprogrammes 1 and 4)

18/8	Human rights and indigenous peoples (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
18/21	Human rights of migrants (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
18/26	The right to development (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
18/117	Reporting by the Secretary-General on the question of the death penalty
S-7/1	The negative impact of the worsening of the world food crisis on the realization of the right to food for all (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
S-10/1	The impact of the global economic and financial crises on the universal realization and effective enjoyment of human rights (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
S-18/1	The human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic (subprogrammes 3 and 4)

Subprogramme 1
Human rights mainstreaming, right to development and research and analysis

General Assembly resolutions

41/128	Declaration on the Right to Development
46/122	United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery
59/113 A and B	World Programme for Human Rights Education
59/174	Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
60/142	Programme of Action for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
60/147	Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law
62/163	Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all
63/168	Moratorium on the use of the death penalty
63/183	Missing persons
64/12	Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies
64/178	Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons

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16/9	Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran
16/17	Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan
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Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 21
International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees

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Overall orientation

21.1 The overall objective of the programme is to ensure international protection to refugees and others of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and to seek permanent solutions to their problems in cooperation with States and other organizations, including through the provision of humanitarian assistance.

21.2 The mandate for the programme is contained in General Assembly resolution 319 A (IV), by which the Assembly established UNHCR as from 1 January 1951, and resolution 428 (V), which sets out the statute of the Office. The Assembly has also called upon the High Commissioner to ensure that refugees returning voluntarily to their countries of origin ("returnees") receive assistance to help in their sustainable reintegration, as well as to monitor their safety and well-being upon return. UNHCR has also been mandated to address the situation of stateless persons in accordance with the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (1954) and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (1961). In addition, on the basis of specific requests from the Secretary-General or the competent principal organs of the United Nations and with the consent of the State concerned, UNHCR provides humanitarian assistance and protection to internally displaced persons, working in cooperation with the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator. In its work for internally displaced persons and as part of the collaborative response of the United Nations system to internal displacement, UNHCR has been given special lead or co-lead responsibility for the following three cluster areas: protection, emergency shelter and camp management/coordination. Addressing the protection needs of these various categories of persons "of concern" to UNHCR, although some may not or may no longer be refugees, also forms an integral part of the programme.

21.3 With regard to the assistance activities of UNHCR, the basic provisions of its statute were built upon by the Assembly in its resolution 832 (IX). Through the adoption by the Assembly of its resolution 58/153 on implementing actions proposed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to strengthen the capacity of the Office to carry out its mandate, UNHCR was given a renewed mandate to address the challenge of forced displacement through a mission based on a spirit of solidarity, responsibility and burden-sharing, with an abiding commitment to make the Office a truly multilateral institution.

21.4 The international legal basis for the protection of refugees finds its principal expression in the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees. There are a number of regional instruments of relevance, such as the Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa of the Organization of African Unity (now the African Union), the Cartagena Declaration on Refugees, adopted by the Colloquium on the International Protection of Refugees in Central America, Mexico and Panama and the San José Declaration on Refugees and Displaced Persons. The 2009 African Union Convention for the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa sets out a regional legal regime regarding internally displaced persons. The international legal basis for addressing the situation of stateless persons stems from the 1954 and 1961 Conventions. In addition, other international human rights instruments, such as the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child, are relevant in providing international

protection to refugees, stateless persons, internally displaced persons, returnees and others of concern.

21.5 The overall strategy for the period 2014-2015 will cover a range of activities to be undertaken in cooperation with States and various organizations. It will be guided by the UNHCR global strategic priorities and incorporate concerted responses to the challenges it met in the previous biennium, including an increasingly urban-based population of concern, the growing complexity of the asylum-migration nexus and the expanded UNHCR activities for internally displaced persons. It will also be guided by pledges to improve the protection of refugees and stateless persons by the 155 States that participated in the 2011 intergovernmental ministerial-level event commemorating the anniversaries of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (1961).

21.6 Notable among the activities to be implemented for the period 2014-2015 are the following:

(a) Pursuing comprehensive strategies, in cooperation with States and organizations, for achieving durable solutions for refugees and others of concern, notably through voluntary return, and, where appropriate and feasible, through local integration and resettlement, while promoting effective protection in displacement;

(b) Strengthening the legal regime for international protection, including through the promotion of accessions to international and regional instruments relating to the status of refugees or otherwise benefiting refugees, the effective implementation of refugee rights and the promotion and dissemination of refugee law and protection principles;

(c) Enhancing and reinforcing host country capacities to provide asylum and protection;

(d) Ensuring that UNHCR fully participates in and supports the strengthened collaborative response of the United Nations to situations of internal displacement through its leadership and coordination of areas for which the Office has been given special responsibility under the "cluster approach": protection, emergency shelter and camp management/coordination;

(e) Further developing contingency planning, emergency preparedness and response capabilities, in coordination with other organizations, so as to respond effectively and efficiently to situations of forced displacement;

(f) Promoting gender equality and ensuring that UNHCR and its partners mainstream into all aspects of programme delivery full consideration of the rights of persons of concern, as well as the particular needs and capacities, ascertained through participatory assessments, of refugee women and children, elderly refugees, refugees with disabilities and other persons with specific needs;

(g) Further developing, in consultation with concerned parties, options to ensure the security of refugee camps, settlements and areas of return, as well as their civilian and humanitarian character, and exploring further concrete ways of enhancing the safety and security of UNHCR staff and other humanitarian workers working with refugees and returnees. In this regard, due consideration should be given to the obligation of United Nations officials to observe fully both the laws and

regulations of Member States and their duties and responsibilities to the Organization;

(h) Systematically following up on relevant recommendations in the plans of action emanating from recent international conferences, especially the plan of action related to the Millennium Development Goals, and involving other humanitarian and development organizations, both national and international, in the provision of assistance to refugees, returnees, stateless persons, internally displaced persons and host communities, as well as in the search for durable solutions;

(i) Advocating for the prevention and reduction of statelessness as well as the protection of stateless persons by promoting the accession by States to the relevant international instruments and working with States to facilitate the acquisition, reacquisition or confirmation of nationality of stateless persons.

21.7 The programme is under the intergovernmental guidance of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in accordance with its terms of reference, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 1166 (XII). Pursuant to the request of the General Assembly in that resolution, the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 672 (XXV), established the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, which came into existence on 1 January 1959. Reaffirming the terms of reference laid down by the General Assembly, the Council decided that the Executive Committee, being entrusted with the terms of reference set forth in General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII), should: (a) determine the general policies under which the High Commissioner should plan, develop and administer the programmes and projects required to help solve the problems referred to in its resolution 1166 (XII); (b) review at least annually the use of funds made available to the High Commissioner and the programmes and projects being proposed or carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner; and (c) have authority to make changes in and give final approval for the use of funds and the programmes and projects referred to in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above. In subsequent resolutions, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner have called upon the Office, in the context of its basic mandate, to assist other groups of persons regarded as falling under the competence of the High Commissioner. Although established by the Economic and Social Council, which elects its members, the Executive Committee functions as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and is the key governing body of UNHCR. The annual cycle of meetings of the Executive Committee consists of one annual plenary session and a number of intersessional meetings of the Standing Committee. Reports on the sessions of the Executive Committee are submitted to the General Assembly as addenda to the reports of the High Commissioner. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/134 on the enlargement of the Executive Committee, the membership of the Committee may be increased from 85 to 87 States.

21.8 The High Commissioner, who is elected by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Secretary-General, provides the overall direction, supervision and management of the activities under this programme. The functions of the High Commissioner are set out in the annex to the statute of UNHCR. The High Commissioner is assisted by a Deputy High Commissioner and by two Assistant High Commissioners, for Protection and for Operations, respectively.

Objective of the Organization: To ensure international protection to refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and to achieve permanent solutions to their problems in cooperation with States and other organizations, including through the provision of humanitarian assistance

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved overall protection environment for refugees and others of concern	(a) (i) Increased number of ratifications/ accessions to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions related to Statelessness
	(ii) Increased number of ratifications/ accessions to the 2009 Convention for the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa
	(iii) Increased participation of government and partner staff in learning activities concerning international protection standards
(b) Refugees and others of concern are treated fairly and efficiently when seeking protection, and receive adequate documentation	(b) (i) Increased percentage of refugees and asylum-seekers who are registered on an individual basis
	(ii) Increased percentage of refugees and others of concern receiving individual identity and civil documentation
(c) Increased safety from violence and exploitation for refugees and others of concern, especially women and children	(c) (i) Increased number of UNHCR operations in which support to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence has improved
	(ii) Increased percentage of unaccompanied and separated children for whom a best interests process has been initiated
(d) The basic needs of refugees and others of concern are met and essential services are provided without discrimination and with specific consideration to age, gender and physical condition	(d) (i) Increased number of camps where global acute malnutrition levels meet minimum standards
	(ii) Increased percentage of households of refugees and others of concern with adequate dwellings
	(iii) Increased number of camps where the mortality rate of children of concern under 5 years of age meets acceptable standards
	(iv) Increased percentage of refugee children aged 6 to 13 enrolled in primary education

(e) Refugees and others of concern, both men and women, participate equally within their communities and their self-reliance is promoted	(e) (i) Increased number of sites where management structures have 50 per cent active female participation (ii) Increased number of UNHCR operations implementing comprehensive strategies to promote the self-reliance of refugees and others of concern
(f) Progress in finding durable solutions for refugees supported by sustained international cooperation	(f) (i) Increased number of countries where refugees and others of concern benefit from joint programming on durable solutions between UNHCR and other agencies (ii) Increased percentage of persons who have departed for resettlement among those whose applications have been submitted (iii) Increased percentage of UNHCR operations supporting national authorities with the local integration of refugees
(g) Strengthened partnership and emergency response capacity to provide the fullest possible coverage of the needs of persons of concern	(g) (i) Maintained percentage of UNHCR budget implemented through partners (ii) Increased percentage of emergencies in which first delivery of protection and relief takes place within three days of the onset of an emergency (iii) Increased number of appropriately trained staff (including partners) deployed to emergencies

Strategy

21.9 The implementation of the programme falls under the overall responsibility of the regional bureaux of UNHCR; the Division of International Protection Services; the Division of Programme Support and Management; the Division of Emergency, Security and Supply and the Division of Financial and Administrative Management. In pursuing expected accomplishments for 2014-2015, the Office will strive to improve accountability, financial and programme control as well as risk management. The Office will continue to mainstream the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) reforms across its operations and systematically promote innovation in programme design, delivery and management.

21.10 Further accessions to the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees as well as to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness will be promoted. Monitoring of the observance by States of international legal standards for the treatment of refugees, especially the fundamental principles of access to asylum and non-refoulement, will contribute to ensuring the effective

implementation of refugee rights by the States concerned. This will involve ensuring that States have established fair and efficient procedures for the determination of refugee status and to ensure that all persons seeking international protection are granted access to those procedures and mechanisms. Renewed efforts are being made by UNHCR and its partners to provide protection and operational services in States that have not yet established protection frameworks. Attention will be given to specifically address age, gender and diversity sensitivities in State asylum systems and procedures. The Office will deliver appropriate training and capacity-building services and enhance expertise in refugee status determination. UNHCR will work with Governments to raise awareness that gender-related forms of persecution may be grounds for refugee status.

21.11 The Office will continue to encourage States to ensure the protection of refugees and others of concern within broader migration movements. The frame of reference for UNHCR activities in this regard is its 10-point plan of action for refugee protection and mixed migration, which provides a framework of protection tools which could be built into broad migration strategies that take into account international protection needs while creating solutions tailored to the various categories of people in mixed migration movements. Similarly, with much international migration taking place by sea, UNHCR will continue to be involved in issues related to the disembarkation of mixed-migration groups and the search for solutions for those rescued at sea or found as stowaways and who are in need of international protection.

21.12 To ensure a more effective response to the protection needs of refugee women, children and adolescents, a more concerted effort will be made to mainstream policies and guidelines relating to those groups of refugees through the work of specially trained interdisciplinary UNHCR country teams. The Office will reinforce efforts to ensure that refugee children can access appropriate educational opportunities.

21.13 The promotion and dissemination of refugee law and protection principles, particularly through training, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and other relevant organizations of governmental and non-governmental officials, will be another means of achieving the stated objective. In addition, when UNHCR provides protection to internally displaced persons, it will do so on the basis of criteria enumerated in the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and in close collaboration with other concerned entities and agencies. To revitalize old partnerships and build new ones in support of the international refugee protection system, efforts to promote collaboration on refugee protection with a wide range of actors, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, will be continued.

21.14 UNHCR will strive to ensure the optimal alignment of its operational objectives and resources with the needs of refugees and others of concern. The Office will build upon the positive results of comprehensive and participatory approaches to planning to ensure that the needs and capacities of men, women and children of concern form the foundation of programme design. This will include the use of standards and indicators across the full spectrum of the work of the Office as a means of identifying protection and assistance gaps and channelling resources to ensure that acceptable standards are met in critical situations. Tools for recording operational data, including demographic, registration and profiling information;

situational analysis and planning will be further systematized. Business intelligence capacities will be strengthened to improve global analysis and evaluation of results.

21.15 UNHCR will strengthen strategies to address urban displacement, by improving data on displaced populations in urban areas, expanding partnerships and reinforcing operating principles for protection and solutions. The Office will work to strengthen socio-economic assessments, build entrepreneurship and expand access to community technology in urban areas. It will partner with Governments to enhance access of urban refugees to health care, health insurance and adequate shelter.

21.16 The Office will build upon the outcomes of its strategic plans for 2008-2012 in the areas of HIV and AIDS, malaria control, nutrition and food security, reproductive health and water and sanitation to ensure that prevention, care and treatment policies and programmes meet international standards during all phases of the displacement cycle. It will strengthen the means of monitoring standards in other key areas, including through the introduction of a water, sanitation and hygiene monitoring system. The UNHCR shelter strategy will be rolled out to raise the quality of emergency and transitional shelter, including through the development of innovative, cost-effective, light and manageable alternatives to tents. UNHCR will continue to give priority to environmental conservation and sustainable resource management in its programmes.

21.17 Finding durable solutions for millions of refugees and internally displaced persons will be central to the programme of work. The Office will seek opportunities to resolve complex and protracted displacement situations that require comprehensive, and often regional, approaches encompassing voluntary repatriation, local integration and, where appropriate, resettlement. UNHCR will also work with partners to ensure that durable solutions to displacement form part of broader development and peacebuilding agendas. To foster the self-reliance of populations pending solutions, UNHCR will increase livelihoods interventions, including vocational and skills training; support for agriculture, livestock and fisheries; and access to financial services or microfinance.

21.18 Effective operational and strategic partnerships will remain a priority for the Office, as a means of enhancing protection, increasing efficiency and strengthening local capacities for response. The Office will further enhance its Implementing Partnership framework and promote implementation of its programmes through partners, with special emphasis on supporting national partners. It will also reinforce its information management, coordination and support capacities to facilitate a more predictable and accountable inter-agency engagement.

21.19 The Office will continue to strengthen its emergency preparedness and response capacity, including through strong emergency management and the coordination role of the Division of Emergency, Security and Supply. The overall strategy will be to support field operations through a well-established corporate approach to emergency response, drawing on the most appropriate resources from throughout the organization to meet the needs of each emergency operation and ensure predictable, effective and timely support in terms of staffing, supply chain, and security coverage. The focus for the period 2014-2015 will be to further strengthen senior leadership capacity for emergency operations, increase the speed and efficiency of UNHCR delivery of assistance, particularly during emergencies, and provide analytical security advice which enables operations even in areas where residual risks remain. UNHCR will continue to expand strategic partnerships, to broaden the capacity and networks of expertise with which to respond to

emergencies. UNHCR will continue to improve its emergency and security policies, tools, and capacity-building initiatives/training to ensure that its staff and partners are as well equipped as possible.

Legislative mandates

Conventions and conference declarations

Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) and its Protocol (1967)

Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (1954)

Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (1961)

Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa (1969)

Cartagena Declaration on Refugees (1984)

Convention on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25) (1989)

San José Declaration on Refugees and Displaced Persons (1994)

African Union Convention for the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (2009)

General Assembly resolutions

319 A (IV)	Refugees and stateless persons
428 (V)	Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
538 B (VI)	Assistance and protection of refugees
1166 (XII)	International assistance to refugees within the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
50/152	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
58/153	Implementing actions proposed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to strengthen the capacity of his Office to carry out its mandate
66/133	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
66/134	Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
66/135	Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

Executive Committee

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